Lecture Notes
in Business Information Processing 11

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Preface

The TOOLS conference series started in 1989 and, over the following 15 years, held 45 sessions: TOOLS EUROPE, TOOLS USA, TOOLS PACIFIC, TOOLS CHINA and TOOLS EASTERN EUROPE. TOOLS played a major role in the spread of object-oriented and component technologies; many seminal software concepts now taken for granted were first discussed at TOOLS, taking advantage of the informal, application-oriented, technically intense and marketing-free atmosphere of the conference. Invited speakers have included countless luminaries of science and industry.

After an interruption of four years, TOOLS started again in June 2007, hosted by ETH Zurich with great success. TOOLS has broadened its scope beyond the original topics of object technology and component-based development to encompass all modern, practical approaches to software development. In doing so, it kept with the traditional TOOLS spirit of technical excellence, focus on practicality, combination of theory and applications, and reliance on the best experts from academia and industry.

The 2008 edition of the conference was again held at ETH Zurich, and continued to reflect TOOLS's fundamental tradition. This year, TOOLS was co-located with two other distinct-but-related conferences: the International Conference on Model Transformation (ICMT), with a strong focus on model-driven engineering and, in particular, model transformation technology and theory; and the International Conference on Software Engineering for Offshore and Outsourced Development (SEAFOOD). This co-location, combined with three excellent workshops (on Web 2.0 Pattern Mining, Business Support and MDA, and FAMIX and Moose in Software Engineering) and five tutorials, gave the TOOLS week an unparalleled program of practical and theoretical talks, and a fantastic opportunity for researchers and practitioners in software development to network.

The TOOLS week of conferences was further distinguished by a number of excellent keynote speakers: Michael Brodie (Verizon), John Mylopoulos (University of Trento and the University of Toronto), Erik Meijer (Microsoft), and the ICMT keynote speaker Krzysztof Czarnecki (University of Waterloo). These speakers reflect the TOOLS themes of practicality, combination of theory and application, and substantial expertise.

This volume includes the 21 fully refereed and revised papers accepted by the TOOLS Program Committee. The committee received 58 submissions, a total slightly lower than the previous TOOLS conference, but offset by the submissions received by the co-located events. All told, submission to all three conferences held in the TOOLS week totalled 149, and the overall acceptance rate at these three conferences was 33%.

The 46th TOOLS conference was the result of the hard work of many hundreds of people, including the Program Committee and additional reviewers who

worked hard – and to somewhat unrealistic deadlines! – to select papers, offer feedback and advice, and to ensure that the technical quality that TOOLS is known for was upheld. The Organizing Committee worked hard to schedule all the events (a complicated undertaking in itself!) We would like to thank everyone for their invaluable contributions.

June 2008 Richard Paige

Organization

TOOLS EUROPE 2008 was organized by the Chair of Software Engineering, ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

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